

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1319**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Liu**

February 22, 2005

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*An act to amend Sections 8530, 8531, 8532, 8533, and 8538 of the Education Code, relating to adult education.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1319, as amended, Liu. Adult education: *community college districts.*

~~Existing~~

(1) *Existing law provides for adult educational programs offered by school districts and community colleges.*

This bill would make specified findings and declarations and would provide the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that reforms the adult education system.

(2) *Existing law declares that adult basic education is the responsibility of high school and unified school districts except in those instances where, by mutual agreement, the responsibility is assigned to a community college district.*

*This bill would instead provide that adult basic education is the responsibility of high school districts, unified school districts, and community college districts.*

(3) *Existing law declares that the high school diploma program is the responsibility of high school and unified school districts, but that courses leading to a high school diploma may be offered by a community college district pursuant to a mutual agreement.*

*This bill would delete the requirement that courses leading to a high school diploma may be offered by a community college district only pursuant to a mutual agreement.*

*(4) Existing law provides that vocational and occupational training and retraining programs, and adult continuing education, as defined, may be made available in high school districts, unified school districts, and community college districts by mutual agreement.*

*This bill would delete the requirement that these programs be offered by mutual agreement.*

*(5) The bill would also make various technical and conforming changes.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:

2 (a) The adult education system plays a critical role in  
3 providing adult learners with the necessary education and skills  
4 to earn a high school diploma or GED, obtain jobs, and become  
5 self-sufficient, active, and productive members of society.

6 (b) Adult education is essential to the needs of society in an  
7 era of rapid technological, economic, and social change, and the  
8 adult education system must meet the needs of a growing and  
9 knowledge-based workforce and economy.

10 (c) There is substantial need for adult education service. The  
11 state's large immigrant and English language learner population,  
12 the large number of persons with less than a high school  
13 education, and the growing demand for a more skilled workforce  
14 have generated an increased need for access to quality adult  
15 education and literacy programs.

16 (d) The current adult education and community college  
17 noncredit data systems function independently and are not  
18 coordinated, making it difficult to interpret and use data, creating  
19 inconsistencies, and providing little value in assessing delivery  
20 system benefits and program accountability.

21 (e) The existing adult education funding system is outdated  
22 and there are a number of perceived inequities in how programs  
23 are funded, including the lack of funding parity between the  
24 reimbursement rates used in adult and noncredit education. The

1 statewide distribution of funds is not responsive to the current  
2 needs for service.

3 (f) No formal structure exists for setting joint policy between  
4 the State Department of Education and the Chancellor's Office of  
5 the California Community Colleges, although both are authorized  
6 to offer instruction in the same categories.

7 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation  
8 that accomplishes all of the following:

9 (a) Develops a comprehensive, coordinated, accessible, and  
10 accountable adult education system with a clear mission and  
11 objectives that are linked to state priorities, but that has the  
12 flexibility to respond to local needs.

13 (b) Clarifies the mission of adult education and refocuses  
14 program offerings around key programs based on the priorities,  
15 goals, and strategic needs of the state and local communities.

16 (c) Develops a coordinated, useful data system that does all of  
17 the following:

18 (1) Uses standardized procedures to collect data, and that can  
19 effectively track progress and outcomes of pupils.

20 (2) Complies with federal Workforce Investment Act (29  
21 U.S.C. Sec. 2801 et seq.) data collection and reporting  
22 requirements and is consistent with the data systems of the public  
23 school system and higher education.

24 (3) Uses a common data dictionary that can be used to match  
25 data across systems to compare enrollment, demographics,  
26 outcome, and other data.

27 (d) Convenes an interagency workgroup or task force  
28 comprised of state and local adult education and community  
29 college representatives to study data issues and develop  
30 recommendations to implement a coordinated data collection and  
31 reporting system.

32 (e) Revises the method for allocating state funds and develops  
33 a funding system that is equitable and effective, linked with need  
34 for services, consistent with state and local priorities, and tied to  
35 a statewide accountability mechanism for effective service. The  
36 funding system shall include a mechanism for redistributing any  
37 unused revenues and a plan to achieve equalization of  
38 reimbursement rates within and between segments.

39 (f) Establishes a joint governing board made up of  
40 representatives from the State Department of Education and the

1 Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges with  
2 authority to address and make policy decisions, to restructure  
3 state governance and local service delivery structures to achieve  
4 more accountability, greater program efficiency, and facilitate the  
5 collaboration and coordination of programs.

6 (g) Develops a clear and coordinated delineation of function  
7 between the State Department of Education and the Chancellor's  
8 Office of the California Community Colleges and develops a  
9 process for prioritizing services between noncredit programs and  
10 adult schools. A clear delineation of function will help provide  
11 collaboration and prevent unnecessary duplication.

12 *SEC. 3. Section 8530 of the Education Code is amended to*  
13 *read:*

14 8530. Adult basic education is the responsibility of high  
15 school ~~and districts, unified school districts except in those~~  
16 ~~instances where by mutual agreement the responsibility is~~  
17 ~~assigned to a, and community college district districts.~~

18 *SEC. 4. Section 8531 of the Education Code is amended to*  
19 *read:*

20 8531. The high school diploma program is the responsibility  
21 of the high school and unified school districts, but courses  
22 leading to a high school diploma may be offered by a community  
23 college district ~~pursuant to a mutual agreement.~~

24 *SEC. 5. Section 8532 of the Education Code is amended to*  
25 *read:*

26 8532. Vocational and occupational training and retraining  
27 programs for adults may be made available in high school,  
28 unified, ~~and or community college districts by mutual agreement.~~

29 *SEC. 6. Section 8533 of the Education Code is amended to*  
30 *read:*

31 8533. Adult continuing education, including, but not  
32 necessarily limited to, parent education, consumer education,  
33 civic education, education in special fields, and education in the  
34 arts and the humanities, may be made available in high school,  
35 unified, ~~and or community college districts by mutual agreement.~~

36 *SEC. 7. Section 8538 of the Education Code is amended to*  
37 *read:*

38 8538. ~~Effective July 1, 1977, (a) for (a) For~~ noncredit classes  
39 or programs offered in community colleges pursuant to this  
40 chapter, average daily attendance for state apportionment

1 purposes shall only be calculated for—~~such the~~ classes or  
2 programs—~~which by mutual agreement that~~ are the responsibility  
3 of the community colleges pursuant to ~~Sections~~ *Section* 8530—~~and~~  
4 ~~or 8531; and (b) for.~~

5 (b) For noncredit classes or programs offered in the  
6 community colleges and for classes for adults offered in high  
7 schools or adult schools pursuant to this chapter, average daily  
8 attendance for state apportionment purposes shall only be  
9 calculated for—~~such the~~ classes or programs—~~which by mutual~~  
10 ~~agreement that~~ are the responsibility of the community colleges  
11 or of the high school or unified school districts pursuant to  
12 ~~Sections~~ *Section* 8532—~~and or~~ 8533.